			Procedures Re 2 of 1968, as amended an		, as amended.					
Loca	al Unit	of Go	vernment Type			Local Unit Name		County		
	Coun	ty	☐City 🗵Twp	□Village	Other	Township of	Big Creek	Oscoda		
Fisc	al Yea	ar End		Opinion Date			Date Audit Report Subm	itted to State		
3/3	31/07	7		8/17/07			9/28/07			
We a	affirm	that	:							
We a	are c	ertifie	ed public accountants	s licensed to p	ractice in M	lichigan.				
			rm the following mat Letter (report of com				d in the financial state	ements, including the notes, or in the		
	Check each applicable box below. (See instructions for further detail.)									
1.	×		All required compo reporting entity not					inancial statements and/or disclosed in the		
2.	×						t's unreserved fund b dget for expenditures	alances/unrestricted net assets .		
3.	×		The local unit is in	compliance wif	th the Unifo	rm Chart of Acc	counts issued by the I	Department of Treasury.		
4.	×		The local unit has a	adopted a budo	get for all re	equired funds.				
5.	×		A public hearing or	the budget w	as held in a	ccordance with	State statute.			
6.	×			The local unit has not violated the Municipal Finance Act, an order issued under the Emergency Municipal Loan Act, or other guidance as issued by the Local Audit and Finance Division.						
7.	×		The local unit has r	not been delind	quent in dist	tributing tax rev	enues that were colle	cted for another taxing unit.		
8.	×		The local unit only	holds deposits	/investmen	ts that comply v	vith statutory requiren	nents.		
9.	×						at came to our attenti (see Appendix H of I	ion as defined in the <i>Bulletin for</i> Bulletin).		
10.	X		that have not been	previously cor	nmunicated	to the Local A		ur attention during the course of our audit sion (LAFD). If there is such activity that has		
11.	X		The local unit is fre	e of repeated	comments f	from previous ye	ears.			
12.	×		The audit opinion is	3 UNQUALIFIE	D.					
13.	×		The local unit has o			r GASB 34 as m	nodified by MCGAA S	statement #7 and other generally		
14.	×		The board or cound	cil approves all	invoices p	rior to payment	as required by charte	er or statute.		
15.		×	To our knowledge,	bank reconcili	ations that	were reviewed v	were performed timel	y.		
incl des	uded cripti	l in ti ion(s		dit report, nor I/or commissio	do they ob n.	otain a stand-a	one audit, please er	undaries of the audited entity and is not nclose the name(s), address(es), and a		
_			closed the followin		Enclosed		enter a brief justification	1)		
			tements	<u>5</u> -	X		,	7		
The	e lette	er of	Comments and Rec	ommendations						
Othor (Passilla)										

Other (Describe) Certified Public Accountant (Firm Name) Telephone Number James M. Anderson, P.C. (989) 563-2450 Street Address City State Zip Digitally signed by James M.
Anderson, CPA
DN: cn=.lames M. Anderson, CPA,
c=US, o-James M. Anderson, P.C.
email=jma@m33access.com
Date: 2007.09.28 11:24:29 -04'00' 48653 P.O. Box 255 Roscommon MI Authorizing CPA Sigr Printed Name License Number 1101017419 James M. Anderson, CPA

# TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK OSCODA COUNTY, MICHIGAN AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 2007

#### **TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS**

Supervisor James Booth

Clerk Judy Berney

Treasurer Janis Sanderson

#### **TRUSTEES**

Marian Buchanan

Rex McGregor

#### TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK

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#### James M. Anderson, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

P.O. Box 255 • Roscommon, MI 48653 Phone: (989) 563-2450 • Fax: (989) 563-3471 • E-mail: jma@m33access.com

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

August 17, 2007

Township Board Big Creek Township Oscoda County, Michigan

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township of Big Creek, as of and for the year ended March 31, 2007, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to in the first paragraph present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund activity, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township of Big Creek, as of March 31, 2007, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The management's discussion and analysis on pages 3-8 and budgetary comparison information on pages 25-30 are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. I have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, I did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Township Board Big Creek Township Oscoda County, Michigan Page 2

My audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Township of Big Creek's basic financial statements. The introductory section and combining financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The combining financial statements have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in my opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The introductory section has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, I express no opinion on them.

JAMES M. ANDERSON, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

### TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of Big Creek Township (the "Township"), we offer readers of the Township's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Township for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2007.

#### Financial Highlights

- . The assets of the Township exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$870,632 (net assets). Of this amount, \$174,067 (unrestricted net assets) may be used to meet the Township's ongoing obligations.
- . The Township's total net assets increased by \$14,465.
- . As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Township's general fund, reported an ending fund balance of \$173,180, a decrease of \$175,501 in comparison with the prior year.
- . At the end of the current fiscal year, the unreserved fund balance for the general fund was \$173,180 or 32% of total general fund expenditures.

#### Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Township's basic financial statements. The Township's basic financial statements consist of three components: 1)Government-wide financial statements, 2)Fund financial statements, and 3)Notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplemental information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

**Government-wide financial statements.** The *Government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Township's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The *statement of net assets* presents information on all of the Township's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net assets*. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Township is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the Township's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, *regardless of the timing of related cash flows*. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

Both of the Government-wide financial statements present functions of the Township that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities). The governmental activities of the Township include general government, public safety, public works, and recreation. The Township does not have any business-type activities as of and for the year ended March 31, 2007.

The Government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 9-10 of this report.

**Fund financial statements.** A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Township, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Township can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and fiduciary funds.

**Governmental funds.** Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the Government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a Township's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the Government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for *governmental funds* with similar information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds* and *governmental activities*.

The Township maintains two governmental funds. Information is presented in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the General and Road Improvement Fund.

The Township adopts an annual appropriated budget for its governmental funds. Budgetary comparison statements or schedules have been provided for the governmental funds herein to demonstrate compliance with the budget.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 11 and 13 of this report.

**Fiduciary funds.** Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the Township. Fiduciary funds are *not* reflected in the Government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are *not* available to support the Township's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds.

**Notes to financial statements.** The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 17-24 of this report.

#### Government-wide Financial Analysis

A portion of the Township's net assets (80%) reflects its investments in capital assets (e.g., land, land improvements, buildings, and equipment); less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The Township uses these capital assets to provide services to the community; consequently, these assets are *not* available for future spending.

#### Township's Net Assets

	Governmental Activities							
		2007		2006		ariance		%
Current and Other Assets Capital Assets, Net	\$	178,768 696,565	\$	358,343 503,971	\$	(179,575) 192,594	_	(50.11) 38.21
Total Assets		875,333		862,314		13,019		1.51
Current Liabilities		4,701		6,147	_	(1,446)	_	<u>(23.52</u> )
Total Liabilities		4,701		6,147		(1,446)		(23.52)
Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt Unrestricted		696,565 174,067		503,971 352,196		192,594 (178,129)	_	38.21 ( <u>50.58</u> )
Total Net Assets	\$	870,632	\$	856,167	\$	14,465		1.69

The Township's net assets increased by \$14,465 during the current fiscal year. Unrestricted net assets - the part of net assets that can be used to finance day to day operations, decreased by \$178,129 or 51%, during fiscal year 2007.

#### Township's Changes in Net Assets

	Governmental Activities						
		2007		2006	\	/ariance	%
Revenue:							
Program Revenue:	_				_		(4.54.)
Charges for Services	\$	28,675	\$	33,621	\$	(4,946)	(14.71)
Operating Grants and Contributions		25 <b>,</b> 649		20,383		5,266	25.84
General Revenue:							
Property Taxes		81,953		73,606		8,347	11.34
State-Shared Revenues		236,580		231,467		5,113	2.21
Interest		2,218		5,309		(3 <b>,</b> 091)	<u>(58.22</u> )
Total Revenue	_	375 <b>,</b> 075		364,386	_	10,689	2.93
Expenses:							
General Government		194,200		166,041		28,159	16.96
Public Safety		79,996		74,805		5,191	6.94
Public Works		73,300		78,541		(5,241)	(6.67)
Recreation and Cultural		13,114		16,511	_	(3,397)	<u>(20.57</u> )
Total Expenses	_	360,610		335,898	_	24,712	7.36
Increase in Net Assets		14,465		28,488		(14,023)	(49.22)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year		856,167		827,679		28,488	3.44
Net Assets, End of Year	\$	870,632	\$	856,167	\$	14,465	1.69

**Governmental activities.** The Township's total governmental revenues increased by \$10,689 from last fiscal year. This was primarily attributed to the increase in revenues from property taxes and additional operating grants. Expenses increased by \$24,712. The increase was primarily due to additional payroll, operational supplies and the construction of a new township hall.

#### Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

As noted earlier, the Township uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the Township's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$174,067, a decrease of \$178,129 in comparison with the prior year. The *undesignated fund balance*, which is available for spending at the Township's discretion, constitutes 100% of this total amount.

The primary governmental fund is the General Fund of the Township. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unreserved fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures. Undesignated fund balance represents 32% of total general fund expenditures.

The fund balance of the General Fund decreased by \$175,501 during the current fiscal year.

#### General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The Township's budgets are prepared in accordance with Michigan Law. The budgeted funds are the General and Road Improvement Funds.

#### Capital Assets and Debt Administration

**Capital assets.** The Township's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of March 31, 2007, amounted to \$696,565 (net of accumulated depreciation). Investment in capital assets includes land, land improvements, buildings, and equipment. Additions totaled \$224,061 for the fiscal year.

### Township's Capital Assets (net of depreciation)

T\_\_\_1

		2007	 2006	Percentage <u>Change</u>
Land Buildings and Improvements Vehicles and Equipment	\$	148,796 442,023 105,746	\$ 148,796 241,323 113,852	0.00 183.17 (7.12)
Total	<u>\$</u>	696,565	\$ 503 <b>,</b> 971	<u>138.21</u>

Additional information on the Township's capital assets can be found in note F on page 23 of this report.

#### Factors Bearing on the Township's Future

The following factors were considered in preparing the Township's budget for the 2007-2008 fiscal year:

- . The State of Michigan has made significant cuts in their operating budgets due to a down turn of the economy. For 2006-2007, the Township received \$229,936 in state shared revenues, representing 61% of the revenues in the General Fund. The amounts of state shared revenues for future periods is uncertain and will affect the Township's budget.
- . The Township budgeted \$25,000 to cover the remaining costs of the new township hall.

#### Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Township's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to:

Big Creek Township P.O. Box 197 Luzerne, MI 48636

#### TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS MARCH 31, 2007

ASSETS	Governmental <u>Activities</u>
Current Assets:     Cash and investments     Receivables:     Taxes receivable     Accounts receivable     Other Governmental Units	\$ 18,887 100,783 4,298 54,800
Total Current Assets	178,768
Non-Current Assets: Capital Assets - Net	696,565
Total Assets	<u>875,333</u>
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities: Accounts Payable	4,701
Total Current Liabilities	4,701
NET ASSETS	
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt Unrestricted	696,565 174,067
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 870,632</u>

#### TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	<u>Expenses</u>	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Net (Expense) <u>Revenue</u>
General Government Public Safety Public Works Recreation and Cultural	\$ (194,200) (79,996) (73,300) (13,114)	\$ 26,208 -0- -0- 2,467	\$ 4,493 7,050 14,106 	\$ -0- -0- -0- -0-	\$ (163,499) (72,946) (59,194) (10,647)
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ (360,610</u> )	<u>\$ 28,675</u>	<u>\$ 25,649</u>	<u>\$ -0-</u>	(306,286)
GENERAL REVENUES					
Property Taxes Levied for: General Purpose Public Works State Shared Revenue not re Investment Earnings	estricted to sp	pecific purpos	es		80,853 1,100 236,580 2,218
Total General Revenues	i.				320,751
Change in Net Assets					14,465
Net Assets - April 1					856,167
Net Assets - March 31					<u>\$ 870,632</u>

#### TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS MARCH 31, 2007

ASSETS	<u>General</u>	Road <u>Improvement</u>	Totals
Cash and investments Taxes receivable Accounts receivable Due from other units of government Due from other funds	\$ 20,750 96,833 4,298 54,800 1,200	\$ (1,863) 3,950 -0- -0- -0-	\$ 18,887 100,783 4,298 54,800 1,200
Total Assets	<u>\$ 177,881</u>	<u>\$ 2,087</u>	<u>\$ 179,968</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY			
Liabilities: Accounts payable Due to other funds Total Liabilities	\$ 4,701 -0- 4,701	\$ -0- 1,200 1,200	\$ 4,701 1,200 5,901
	4,701	1,200	<u> </u>
Fund Equity: Fund balance	<u>173,180</u>	887	174,067
Total Fund Equity	<u>173,180</u>	887	174,067
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$ 177 <b>,</b> 881	\$ 2 <b>,</b> 087	\$ 179 <b>,</b> 968

# TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK RECONCILIATION OF FUND BALANCES ON BALANCE SHEET FOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES ON THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS MARCH 31, 2007

TOTAL FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

\$ 174**,**067

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Assets are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and therefore are not recorded in the funds. This represents the amounts by which capital assets used in governmental funds exceeds accumulated depreciation.

696,565

TOTAL NET ASSETS - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

870,632

## TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

	G	ieneral_		Road <u>ovements</u>		Totals
Revenues:    Taxes and assessments    Intergovernmental    Charges for services    Rent    Interest    Other	\$	80,853 262,229 9,830 14,017 2,218 4,828	\$	1,100 -0- -0- -0- -0- -0-	\$	81,953 262,229 9,830 14,017 2,218 4,828
Total Revenues		373 <b>,</b> 975		1,100		375 <b>,</b> 075
Expenditures:     General government     Public safety     Public works     Highways and streets     Parks & recreation  Total Expenditures		407,026 65,306 52,320 17,252 7,572		-0- -0- -0- 3,728 -0-	_	407,026 65,306 52,320 20,980 7,572
Excess: Revenue over (under) expenditures		(175,501)		(2,628)		(178,129)
Fund Balance - April 1		348,681		3 <b>,</b> 515		352,196
Fund Balance - March 31	\$	173 <b>,</b> 180	<u>\$</u>	887	<u>\$</u>	174,067

# TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES - TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

\$(178,129)

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However in the statement of activities, the cost of these assets are capitalized and depreciation charged to expense over their useful life.

192,594

CHANGES IN NET ASSETS - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

\$ 14,465

#### TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS MARCH 31, 2007

#### ASSETS

Cash and Investments		<u>\$ 113,166</u>
	LIABILITIES	
Undistributed Collections		113,166
Total Liabilities		113,166
	NET ASSETS	
Net Assets		<u>\$ -0-</u>

## TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

#### REVENUES

Property Tax Collections Interest and Other Collections	\$  436,364 6,557
Total Revenues	 442,921
EXPENDITURES	
Property Taxes Other	 436,364 6,557
Total Expenditures	 442,921
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	-0-
Net Assets - April 1	 -0-
Net Assets - March 31	\$ -0-

#### NOTE A: ENTITY

The Township of Big Creek is a general law township of the State of Michigan located in Oscoda County, Michigan. It operates under an elected board and provides services to its residents in many areas including public safety, street development and maintenance, and general administrative services. As required by generally accepted accounting principles and governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement no. 14 "The Financial Reporting Entity", these financial statements present Big Creek Township (primary government) and its component units. The criteria established by the GASB for determining the reporting entity includes oversight responsibility, fiscal dependency, and whether the financial statements would be misleading if data were not included. On this basis, the financial statements include all of the governmental functions of Big Creek Township.

#### NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of the Township of Big Creek conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant policies.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statements of net assets and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government and its component units. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support.

Likewise, the *primary government* is reported separately from certain legally separate *component units* for which the primary government is financially accountable.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. *Direct expenses* are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. *Indirect expenses* are charged based upon a Township-wide cost allocation plan which allocates costs based upon the number of full time equivalents, number of transactions, and other pertinent information. *Program revenues* include (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items are not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as *general revenues*.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds and major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

#### NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED):

MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION: The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the proprietary fund and fiduciary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources* measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Grant revenues are considered to be available when all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures and select compensated absences are recorded only when payment is due.

Property taxes, intergovernmental revenue, charges for services and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. Only the portion of special assessments receivable due within the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual as revenue of the current period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the Township.

The Township reports the following major governmental fund:

The *General Fund* is the Township's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

#### NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### MEASUREMENT FOCUS BASIS OF ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION (CONTINUED)

The Township reports the following non-major governmental fund:

Road Improvement

Additionally, the Township reports the following fiduciary fund type:

Agency Funds are used to account for assets held on behalf of outside parties, including other governments.

Property tax revenues are recognized as follows:

Properties are assessed as of December 31 and the related property taxes are levied on December 1 of the following year. These taxes are due on February 15; uncollected amounts are subsequently added to the county delinquent tax rolls. A county revolving fund normally pays the balance of the Township's tax levy by May 31 of each year. In accordance with GASB 33 "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions", the Township records the property tax revenue when it becomes an enforceable legal claim for the Township. Therefore, all taxes levied on December 1, 2006, are recorded as revenue in the current year. The Township's taxable value for the 2006 tax year totaled \$88,139,178.

The tax rates for the year ended March 31, 2007, were as follows:

PURPOSE General Road Improvement RATE/ASSESSED VALUATION
.8719 mills per \$1,000
Special Assessment

<u>BUDGETS</u> - Public Act 621 of 1978 as amended provides that a local unit shall not incur expenditures in excess of the amount appropriated. The approved budgets of the Township for budgetary funds were adopted on a fund level. Budgets are normally formulated during January and February of each year and a budget hearing is held in March. The board normally adopts the budget just prior to April 1. Amendments are made to the budgets when determined to be necessary throughout the year. Unused appropriations for budgeted activities lapse at the end of the year. The budget amounts shown in the financial statements are the final authorized amounts as revised during the year.

<u>ESTIMATES</u> - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

<u>CAPITAL ASSETS</u> - Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, sidewalks, and similar items), are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$500 and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Such assets are valued at cost where historical records are available and at an estimated historical cost where no historical records exists. Donated capital assets are valued at their estimated fair value on the date received.

The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized. Improvements are capitalized and depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets, as applicable.

No interest expense has been incurred or capitalized on capital assets reported in proprietary funds.

Depreciation on the capital assets (including infrastructure), is computed using the straight-line or sum-of-the-years digits method over the following estimated useful lives:

	<u>Years</u>
Land improvements	20
Buildings	30-50
Public domain infrastructure	8-50
Equipment	3-20

<u>LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS</u> - In the government-wide financial statements, the long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities. For new bond issuances after the implementation of GASB Statement No. 34, bond premiums and discounts, as well as issuance costs, are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method which approximates the effective interest method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures. Currently, the Township has no outstanding long-term obligations.

#### NOTE C - CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The captions on the balance sheets related to deposits and investments are as follows:

	Checking & <u>Savings</u>
Governmental Activities Agency funds	\$ 18,887 113,166
Total	<u>\$ 132,053</u>

<u>Deposits</u> - At year-end, the carrying amount of the Township's deposits was \$132,053 and the bank balance was \$139,787. According to Section 330.8 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Rules and Regulations, 90% of the total bank balance was covered by federal depository insurance.

The Government Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 3 risk disclosures for Big Creek Township's cash deposits are as follows:

	(	Larrying	Bank
		Amount	 <u>Balance</u>
Insured (FDIC)	\$	119,000	\$ 126,734
Uninsured and Uncollateralized		13,053	 13,053
Total Deposits	\$	132,053	\$ 139,787

#### Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, a government will not be able to recover its deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. Michigan law and the Township's investment policy do not contain legal or policy requirements that would limit the exposure to custodial credit risk for investments. With respect to investments, custodial credit risk generally applies only to direct investments in marketable securities. Custodial credit risk does not apply to local government's indirect investment in securities through the use of mutual funds or government investment pools.

#### Interest Rate Risk

The Township has not adopted a policy that indicates how the Township will minimize interest rate risk, which is the risk that the market value of securities in the portfolio will fall due to changes in market interest rates, by limiting the weighted average maturity of its investment portfolio to less than a given period of time.

#### NOTE C - CASH AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### Concentration of Credit Risk

The Township has not adopted a policy that indicates how the Township will minimize concentration of credit risk, which is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of the Township's investment in a single issuer, by diversifying the investment portfolio so that the impact of potential losses from any one type of security or issuer will be minimized.

<u>Investments</u> - P.A. 20 of 1943, authorizes the Township to deposit and invest in the following:

- a. Bonds and other direct obligations of the United States or its agencies.
- b. Certificates of deposit, savings accounts, deposit accounts, or depository receipts of federally insured banks, insured savings and loan associations or credit unions insured by the national credit union administration that are eligible to be depository of surplus money belonging to the State under section 5 or 6 of act 105, PA 1855, as amended (MCL 21.145 and 21.146).
- c. Commercial paper rated at time of purchase within the three highest classifications established by not less than two standard rating services. Maturity cannot be more than 270 days after purchase.
- d. United States governmental or Federal agency obligation repurchase agreements.
- e. Bankers' acceptance of United States banks.
- f. Mutual funds composed of investments which are legal for direct investments by local units of government in Michigan.

#### NOTE D - EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES OVER APPROPRIATIONS IN BUDGETARY FUNDS

During the year ended March 31, 2007 the Township incurred expenditures in excess of the amounts appropriated in the General Fund as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u> Actual</u>	<u> Variance</u>
General Fund: Cemetery Road Improvements	\$ 8,000 13,513	\$ 8,815 17,252	\$ (815) (3,739)
Road Improvement:			(3,739)
Road Improvements	1,325	3,728	(2,403)

#### NOTE E - DUE FROM OTHER UNITS OF GOVERNMENT

Due from other units of government consists of money advanced to the Big Creek - Mentor Utility Authority totaling \$13,000, County of Oscoda of \$4,049 and State revenue of \$37,751, totaling \$54,800.

#### NOTE F - CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended March 31, 2007 was as follows:

<u>Primary Government</u>	Daninnina			End of
Governmental activities: Land	Beginning of year \$ 148,796	Increases \$ -0-	Decreases \$ -0-	End of <u>Year</u> \$ 148,796
Total capital Assets, not being depreciated	148,796		0-	148,796
Capital assets, being depreciated: Building and improvements Vehicles and equipment	317,894 213,055	211,660 12,401	-0- -0-	529,554 225,456
Total capital assets, being depreciated	530,949	224,061		<u>755,010</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for: Buildings and improvements Vehicles and equipment	76,571 99,203	10,960 20,507	-0- -0-	87,531 119,710
Total accumulated depreciation	175,774	31,467	-0-	207,241
Net capital assets, being depreciated	355,175	192,594		547,769
Net governmental activities capital assets	<u>\$ 503,971</u>	<u>\$ 192,594</u>	<u>\$ -0-</u>	\$ 696 <b>,</b> 565

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

Governmental activities: General government Public safety Parks and recreation	\$ 8,710 17,215 5,542
Total depreciation expense - governmental activities	\$ 31,467

#### NOTE G - PARTIAL SELF-INSURANCE

The Township is a member of the Michigan Township Participating Plan. Under most circumstances, the municipality's maximum coverage is limited as follows:

Type	<u>Limit</u>	<u>Deductible</u>
Property Liability Errors and Omission Law Enforcement Automobiles Crime Inland Marine Workmen's	\$ 908,045 2,000,000 2,000,000 2,000,000 2,000,000	100 -0- -0- -0- 100 -0- 100
Compensation	STATUTORY	-0-

#### NOTE H - JOINT VENTURE - UTILITY AUTHORITY

The Township is a participant in a joint venture with Mentor Township. The Big Creek-Mentor Utility Authority operates a joint township water and sewer system. Each of the townships appoint two members to the Utility Authority Board, these four members then appoint the fifth member from the residents of the two townships. Big Creek Township has a 50 percent interest in the venture and has advanced \$13,000 to the Utility Authority as an interest free loan. The Utility Authority is being funded by two Community Development Block Grants totaling \$809,500, a Farmers Home Administration loan of \$2,000,000, a Farmers Home Administration grant of \$4,000,000, and a State of Michigan Department of Public Health grant of \$2,450,000.

At March 31, 2006 the Utility Authority had assets of \$8,868,387 which consisted of cash totaling \$390,857, receivables of \$342,214, and capitalized construction costs of \$8,135,316 (net). Liabilities were \$2,139,214 and equity was \$6,729,173. Complete separate financial statements for the Utility Authority are available at the Big Creek - Mentor Utility Authority, P.O. Box 99, Mio, Michigan 48647.

#### NOTE I - JOINT VENTURE - FIRE PROTECTION

Big Creek Township is a participant in a joint venture, Tri-Town Fire Department, with the Townships of Mentor and Elmer for the purpose of providing fire protection services to the residents of the townships. The Tri-Town Fire Board is composed of the Supervisor of each of the three townships, two township board members from Big Creek Township and one township board member from each of Mentor Township and Elmer Township.

REQUIRED
SUPPLEMENTARY
INFORMATION

# TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

Revenues:	 Original Budget		Final Amended Budget		<u>Actual</u>	F	ariance avorable favorable)
Taxes and assessments Intergovernmental Charges for services Rent Interest Other	\$ 90,000 240,440 5,465 9,300 100 2,950	\$	90,000 240,440 5,465 9,300 100 2,950	\$	80,853 262,229 9,830 14,017 2,218 4,828	\$	(9,147) 21,789 4,365 4,717 2,118 1,878
Total Revenues	 348 <b>,</b> 255	_	348 <b>,</b> 255		373 <b>,</b> 975		25 <b>,</b> 720
Expenditures:     General government     Fire     Sanitation     Highways and streets     Parks & recreation  Total Expenditures	 457,000 67,550 55,000 13,513 10,000		457,000 67,550 55,000 13,513 10,000 603,063	_	407,026 65,306 52,320 17,252 7,572 549,476		49,974 2,244 2,680 (3,739) 2,428
Excess: Revenue over (under) expenditures	(254,808)		(254,808)		(175,501)		79,307
Fund Balance April 1	 348,681		348,681		348,681		-0-
Fund Balance - March 31	\$ 93,873	<u>\$</u>	93,873	<u>\$</u>	173 <b>,</b> 180	\$	79,307

# TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF REVENUES - COMPARED TO BUDGET YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

	Original Budget	Final Amended Budget	<u>Actual</u>	Variance Favorable ( <u>Unfavorable</u> )	
Revenues: Taxes and Assessments: General property taxes	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 80 <b>,</b> 853	\$ (9,147)	
Total Taxes and Assessments	90,000	90,000	80,853	(9,147)	
Intergovernmental: USDA Federal Title I Swamp tax State shared revenue State Metro Act	-0- 5,000 440 235,000 -0-	-0- 5,000 440 235,000 -0-	7,050 14,106 4,493 229,936 6,644	7,050 9,106 4,053 (5,064) 6,644	
Total Intergovernmental	240,440	240,440	262,229	21,789	
Charges for Services: Fees	5,465	5,465	9,830	4,365	
Total Charges for Services	5,465	5,465	9,830	4,365	
Rent	9,300	9,300	14,017	4,717	
Interest	100	100	2,218	2,118	
Other: Sale of cemetery lots Reimbursements Miscellaneous	2,500 450 -0-	2,500 450 -0-	650 917 3,261	(1,850) 467 3,261	
Total Other	2,950	2,950	4,828	<u> </u>	
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 348,255</u>	<u>\$ 348,255</u>	<u>\$ 373,975</u>	<u>\$ 25,720</u>	

# TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES - COMPARED TO BUDGET YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

General Government	iginal udget	Aı	Final mended Budget		Actual_	Fav	riance vorable <u>favorable</u> )
Township Board: Salaries-Board Payroll taxes Supplies Legal and audit Insurance Dues Education Miscellaneous Capital outlay	\$ 5,100 9,000 -0- 8,000 17,000 4,000 300 1,600 10,000	\$	5,100 9,000 -0- 8,000 17,000 4,000 300 1,600 10,000	\$	5,100 7,315 1,544 7,868 15,893 1,740 -0- 203 9,876	\$	-0- 1,685 (1,544) 132 1,107 2,260 300 1,397 124
Total Township Board	 55,000		55,000		49,539		5,46 <u>1</u>
Township Supervisor: Salary Salary-Clerical Office supplies Education	 16,000 1,000 1,000 500		16,000 1,000 1,000 500		16,000 724 980 130		-0- 276 20 370
Total Township Supervisor	 18,500		18,500		17,834		666
Election Board: Salaries Supplies Education	4,800 4,700 500		4,800 4,700 500		3,746 3,796 425		1,054 904 75
Total Election Board	 10,000		10,000		7,967		2,033
Township Assessor: Salary Office supplies Education	16,400 1,000 400		16,400 1,000 400		16,400 269 50		-0- 731 350
Total Township Assessor	17,800		17,800		16,719		1,081
Township Clerk: Salary - Clerk Salary - Deputy Office supplies Education	16,000 3,000 2,900 400		16,000 3,000 2,900 400		16,000 2,250 1,623 49		-0- 750 1,277 351
Total Township Clerk	 22,300		22,300	_	19,922		2,378

# TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES - COMPARED TO BUDGET YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

	Original <u>Budget</u>	Final Amended <u>Budget</u>	Actual	Variance Favorable ( <u>Unfavorable</u> )
General Government (continued Township Treasurer:	)			
Salary - treasurer Salary - deputy Office supplies Tax statements Education	\$ 16,000 6,500 4,500 16,000 400	\$ 16,000 6,500 4,500 16,000 400	\$ 16,000 3,100 5,110 13,348 185	\$ -0- 3,400 (610) 2,652 215
Total Township Treasurer	43,400	43,400	37,743	5,657
Board of Review: Salaries Supplies	1,200 100	1,200 100	600 23	600 77
Total Board of Review	1,300	1,300	623	677
Township Hall: Salaries Supplies Street lights Contract services Repair & maintenance Utilities Capital outlay	2,500 3,000 18,700 2,000 -0- 4,500 250,000	2,500 3,000 18,700 2,000 -0- 4,500 250,000	597 1,902 18,255 5,085 5,572 4,793 211,660	1,903 1,098 445 (3,085) (5,572) (293) 38,340
Total Township Hall	280,700	<u>280,700</u>	<u>247,864</u>	32,836
Cemetery: Salaries Supplies Contract services Utilities	3,000 1,350 3,500 150	3,000 1,350 3,500 	2,308 1,197 5,114 196	692 153 (1,614) (46)
Total Cemetery	8,000	8,000	8,815	(815)
Total General Government	457,000	457,000	407,026	49,974

# TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES - COMPARED TO BUDGET YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

Fire	iginal udget		Final Amended Budget	A	ctual	Fa	riance vorable avorable)
Fire Department: Salaries Supplies Contract services Repairs and maintenance Insurance Utilities Education Capital outlay	\$ 13,100 2,900 1,800 -0- 1,400 4,700 2,000 3,500	\$	13,100 2,900 1,800 -0- 1,400 4,700 2,000 3,500	\$	10,300 3,453 1,445 3,424 1,017 4,213 779 2,525	\$	2,800 (553) 355 (3,424) 383 487 1,221 975
Total Fire Department	29,400		29,400		27,156		2,244
Tri-Town Fire Department	 38,150		38,150		38,150		-0-
Total Fire	 67 <b>,</b> 550		67,550		65,306		2,244
Sanitation Transfer site Big Creek-Mentor Utility Authority	 35,000 20,000		35,000 20,000		34,448 17,872		552 2,128
Total Sanitation	 55,000		55,000		52,320		2,680
Highways and Streets Road Improvements	 13,513	_	13,513		17,252		(3,739)
Total Highway and Streets	 13,513		13,513		17 <b>,</b> 252		(3 <b>,</b> 739)
Parks & Recreation Salaries Supplies Contract services Utilities	 4,500 3,500 1,200 800	_	4,500 3,500 1,200 800		3,339 3,132 575 526		1,161 368 625 274
Total Parks & Recreation	 10,000		10,000		7,572		2,428
Total Expenditures	\$ 603,063	\$	603,063	<u>\$</u>	549,476	<u>\$</u>	53,587

## BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP ROAD IMPROVEMENT FUND STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

	Original Budget	Final Amended <u>Budget</u>	Actual	Variance Favorable <u>(Unfavorable</u> )
Revenue: Property taxes	\$ 1,325	\$ 1,32 <u>5</u>	\$ 1,100	<u>\$ (225)</u>
Total Revenue	1,325	1,325	1,100	(225)
Expenditures: Road improvements	1,325	1,325	3,728	(2,403)
Total Expenditures	1,325	1,325	3,728	(2,403)
Excess: Revenue over (under) expenditures	-0-	-0-	(2,628)	(2,628)
Fund balance (deficit) January 1	3,515	3,515	3,515	
Fund balance (deficit) December 31	\$ 3,515	\$ 3,515	\$ 887	\$ (2 <b>,</b> 628)



#### James M. Anderson, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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### COMMUNICATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES AND MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

August 17, 2007

Township Board Big Creek Township Oscoda County, Michigan

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Township of Big Creek, Michigan as of and for the year ended March 31, 2007, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, I considered Big Creek Township's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing my auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing my opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the governmental unit's internal control. Accordingly I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the governmental unit's internal control.

My consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, I identified certain deficiencies in internal control that I consider to be material weaknesses.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or a combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control. I consider the following deficiencies to be significant deficiencies in internal control.

The relatively small number of people involved in the accounting functions of the Township and the design of the accounting system as developed by the state make it difficult to adequately segregate duties. Segregation of accounting duties is a fundamental method of strengthening internal control. However, in deciding what internal control procedures should be implemented, the Township Board must consider the costs of implementing them and weigh those costs against the benefits to be derived from their implementation.

Township Board Big Creek Township August 17, 2007 Page 2

All Michigan governments are required to prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principals (GAAP). This is a responsibility of the Township's management. The preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP requires internal controls over both (1) recording, processing, and summarizing accounting data (i.e., maintaining internal books and records), and (2) reporting government-wide and fund financial statements, including the related footnotes (i.e., external financial reporting). As is the case with most small and medium-sized entities, the Township has historically relied on its independent external auditor to assist in the preparation of the government-wide financial statements and footnotes as part of its external financial reporting process. Accordingly, the Township's ability to prepare financial statements in accordance with GAAP is based, in part, on its reliance on its external auditors, who cannot, by definition, be considered a part of the government's internal controls. This condition was caused by the Township's determination that it is more cost effective to outsource the preparation of its annual financial statements to the auditors than to incur the time and expense of obtaining the necessary training and expertise required for the Township to perform this task internally.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or a combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the Township's internal control. I believe that the deficiencies described above are material weaknesses.

In addition, I noted other matters involving the internal control and its operation that I have reported to the management of Big Creek Township in a separate letter dated August 17, 2007.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the Board and others within the organization. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of the report, which is a matter of public record.

JAMES M. ANDERSON, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

# TOWNSHIP OF BIG CREEK REPORT TO MANAGEMENT MARCH 31, 2007



#### James M. Anderson, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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August 17, 2007

Township Board Big Creek Township Oscoda County, Michigan

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements of the Township of Big Creek, Oscoda County, as of and for the year ended March 31, 2007, I considered the Township's accounting, operational, and internal control procedures to determine the nature and extent of my audit testing for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements of the Township and not to provide assurance on the procedures themselves.

I did however, during the course of my audit, become aware of certain matters that are opportunities for enhancing those procedures or controls. The memorandum that accompanies this letter summarizes my comments and suggestions regarding those matters. This letter does not affect my report dated August 17, 2007, on the financial statements of the Township of Big Creek.

I have already discussed these comments and suggestions with the Township's personnel, and I will be pleased to discuss them in further detail at your convenience, and/or to perform any additional studies of these matters, should you so desire.

Sincerely,

JAMES M. ANDERSON, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

#### BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS MARCH 31, 2007

#### **Bank Reconciliations**

Proper bank reconciliations for all the bank accounts are not being prepared on a timely basis. Secondly, a reconciliation to the general ledger maintained by the Clerk is not being performed. Consequently, I made several adjustments to reconcile the bank balances in the general ledger. I recommend that the Treasurer use the reconciled balances as of 4/1/07 and prepare bank reconciliations for all of the Township accounts using the month end as the cut-off. In addition, these balances should be reconciled with the Clerk's general ledger within 15 days of each month end.

#### Tax Collection Account

The Treasurer uses a tax collection bank account to receipt and disburse the taxes collected on behalf of the County and Township. This account is also used to collect and disburse delinquent personal property taxes and other miscellaneous collections. As of March 31, 2007 there was \$5,370.46 in delinquent personal property taxes that had not been disbursed to the respective units. I recommend that the activity in the tax account be analyzed and the proper disbursements be made on a timely basis each month.



#### James M. Anderson, P.C.

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August 17, 2007

Township Board Big Creek Township Oscoda County, MI

#### Dear Board Members:

I have audited the financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township of Big Creek for the year ended March 31, 2007, and have issued my report thereon dated August 17, 2007. Professional standards require that I provide you with the following information related to my audit.

### My Responsibility Under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Government Auditing Standards

As stated in my engagement letter dated August 12, 2007, my responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform my audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement and are fairly presented in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting standards. Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance and because I did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by me.

As part of my audit, I considered the internal control of the Township of Big Creek. Such considerations were solely for the purpose of determining my audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of Big Creek Township's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. However, the objective of my tests was not to provide an opinion on compliance with such provisions.

#### Significant Accounting Policies

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of my engagement letter, I will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Township of Big Creek are described in Note A to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year. I noted no transactions entered into by the Township of Big Creek during the year that were both significant and unusual, and of which, under professional standards, I am required to inform you, or transactions for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Township Board Big Creek Township August 17, 2007 Page 2

#### <u>Accounting Estimates</u>

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected.

#### <u>Audit Adjustments</u>

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define an audit adjustment as a proposed correction of the financial statements that, in my judgment, may not have been detected except through my auditing procedures. An audit adjustment may or may not indicate matters that could have a significant effect on Big Creek Township's financial reporting process (that is, cause future financial statements to be materially misstated). In my judgment, none of the adjustments I proposed, whether recorded or unrecorded by the Township of Big Creek, either individually or in the aggregate, indicate matters that could have a significant effect on Big Creek Township's financial reporting process.

#### Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to my satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. I am pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of my audit.

#### Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves applications of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditors' opinion that may be expressed on those statements, my professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with me to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To my knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

#### <u>Issues Discussed Prior to Retention of Independent Auditors</u>

I generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Big Creek Township's auditor. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of my professional relationship and my responses were not a condition to my retention.

Township Board Big Creek Township August 17, 2007 Page 3

#### <u>Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit</u>

I encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing my audit.

This information is intended solely for the use of management, Township Board and the Michigan Department of Treasury and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

James M. Anderson, P.C.

Certified Public Accountant